

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 /076 W
----- 033059

R 191411Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8225

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR ET XH XB

SUBJ: ETHIOPIA DEMONSTRATES "SOLIDARITY"

1. ETHIOPIA MEDIA HAVE GIVEN WIDE COVERAGE RECENTLY TO ETHIOPIAN PARTICIPATION IN AFRO-ASIAN SOLIDARITY CONFERENCE (AASC) IN LUANDA AND CURRENT VISIT TO ADDIS OF SOVIET DELEGATION TO AASC.

2. IN AAN ARTICLE ENTITLED "PARTICIPATION IN SOLIDARITY CONFAB IS POLITICAL VICTORY FOR REVOLUTION," THE GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED ENGLISH-LANGUAGE DAILY REPORTED STATEMENT BY ONE EPMG DELEGATE TO THE AASC. ALTHOUGH ETHIOPIA HAD ATTENDED THE FIRST CONFERENCE IN 1957, HE SAID, IT HAD BOYCOTTED SUBSEQUENT CONFERENCES "BECAUSE OF THE PREVIOUS REGIME'S CONVICTION THAT IT HAS A SOCIALIST PLATFORM WITH WHICH IT COULD NOT AGREE." HE STATED THAT ETHIOPIA'S PARTICIPATION "PROVIDED US AN OPPORTUNITY TO PROJECT THE TRUE IMAGE OF SOCIALIST ETHIOPIA AND TO EXPLAIN TO THE PARTICIPANTS THE REALITIES OF THE ETHIOPIAN REVOLUTION."

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3. THE FOUR-MAN SOVIET AFRO-ASIAN SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE,

HEADED BY M.S. FAZILOV, FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE KAZAKH S.S.R.,
ARRIVED FEB. 14 AND IS SCHEDULED TO LEAVE FEB. 19. THE
DELEGATION HAS MET WITH MAJ. SISSAY HABTE, CHAIRMAN OF THE
PMAC POLITICAL AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE; FONMIN
KIFLE WODAJU, MOFA PERMSEC GETACHEW KIBRET; LIJ MIKAEL IMRU,
POLITICAL ADVISOR TO THE PMAC HCAIRMAN; MAJOR KIROS ALE-
MAYEHU, CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAMPAIGN
(ZEMETCH); AND DR. AKLILOU HABTE, MINISTER OF CULTURE,
SPORTS AND YOUTH. TWO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SOVIET DELEGATION
WERE B.A. PILIATSKIN, OBSERVER FROM IZVESTIA AND V.K.
KARPOV OF THE SOVIET AFRO-ASIAN SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE.

4. COMMENT: THIS SOVIET DEL ADDS TO LENGTHENING LIST OF
SUCH GROUPS WORKING BETWEEN ETHIOPIA AND THE USSR. THESE
NOW INCLUDE THE MININFO DEL LED TO THE SOVIET UNION AND
E. EUROPE BY ASRATE DESTA; A SOVIET MILITARY DELEGATION
WHOSE PRESENCE HERE WAS NEVER ACKNOWLEDGED BY EITHER THE
SOVIETS OR THE ETHIOPIANS; AN EPMG PUBLIC SECURITY TEAM
TO EASTERN EUROPE, ETC.
HUMMEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, SOCIALISM, FORM OF GOVERNMENT, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ADDIS02088
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760063-0765
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760237/aaaabfnk.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <01 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ETHIOPIA DEMONSTRATES "SOLIDARITY"
TAGS: PFOR, ACMM, ET, XH, XB, AASC-AFRO-ASAIN SOLIDARITY CONFEREN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006